

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 00992 221858Z

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ACTION EB-11

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7301

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, IMCO

SUBJ: INTERGOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE  
ORGANIZATION (IMCO)

REF: EB/MA WEBB/CLAPPIN TELECON JANUARY 22, L974

IN ACCORDANCE REF TELECON, DEPARTMENT REQUESTED PASS  
FOLLOWING LETTER DATED JANUARY 22 FROM IMCO SECRETARY  
GENERAL C.P. SRIVASTAVA TO CHAIRMAN IMCO COUNCIL,\*  
ADMIRAL R.Y. EDWARDS: QUOTE.

I AM SORRY THAT;I SHOULD HAVE TO TROUBLE YOU SO  
SOON ABOUT A PROBLEM WHICH CAN BE RESOLVED ONLY WITH  
YOUR KIND HELP. I WILL COME TO IT STRAIGHT AWAY.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY'S RESOLUTION, A CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES  
WAS CONVENED IN GENEVA DURING NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1973  
TO CONSIDER AND ADOPT A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LINER  
CONFERENCES. THIS CONFERENCE WAS PRECEDED BY TWO  
SESSIONS OF A PREPARATORY COMMITTEE. GOVERNMENTS  
PARTICIPATING IN THESE MEETINGS DECIDED, FOR REASONS  
BEST KNOWN TO THEMSELVES, THAT I SHOULD PRESIDE OVER  
THE DELIBERATIONS OF BOTH THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE  
MEETINGS AS ALSO THE CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES.

ACCORDING TO THE ORIGINAL PROGRAM, THE CONFERENCE  
OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES WAS TO HAVE COMPLETED ITS WORK  
BY MID-DECEMBER 1973. HOWEVER, THE TASK BEFORE THE  
CONFERENCE WAS EXTREMELY COMPLICATED AND, ALTHOUGH  
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PAGE 02 LONDON 00992 221858Z

A GREAT DEAL OF PROGRESS WAS MADE, IT WAS FOUND THAT

ANOTHER SESSION WOULD BE NECESSARY TO CONSIDER THE FINAL ADOPTION OF A CODE OF CONDUCT. THE CONFERENCE ACCORDINGLY DECIDED TO ADJOURN ITS SESSION IN DECEMBER 1973 AND TO MEET AGAIN FROM MARCH 11, 1974 FOR THREE WEEKS.

AS I WAS DUE TO JOIN IMCO FROM JANUARY 1, 1974, I SHOULD HAVE FINISHED WITH THIS BUSINESS IN DECEMBER 1973. HOWEVER, THE CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES DESIRED UNANIMOUSLY THAT I SHOULD PRESIDE OVER THE ADJOURNED SESSION ALSO. I PRESUME THAT THIS WAS DONE WITH A VIEW TO MAINTAINING CONTINUITY IN THE WORK. THIS GAVE ME NO OPTION WHATSOEVER, BUT I DID INFORM THE CONFERENCE THAT I WOULD HAVE TO REPORT THIS DECISION TO YOU, IN YOUR CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE IMCO COUNCIL.

I HAVE SINCE RECEIVED A LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF UNCTAD REMINDING ME THAT THE ADJOURNED SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES WOULD COMMENCE IN GENEVA ON MARCH 11, 1974. BEFORE I MAKE A RESPONSE, I FEEL THAT I MUST HAVE YOUR KIND CONSENT TO MY CONTINUING TO BE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AFORESAID UN CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES. THIS WILL MEAN THAT I WILL HAVE TO BE IN GENEVA FOR ABOUT THREE WEEKS IN MARCH 1974.

IT WAS WELL UNDERSTOOD THAT IMCO WOULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO MEET MY TRAVEL EXPENSES, THOUGH MY SALARY FOR THE PERIOD WOULD BE PAID TO ME BY IMCO. WHILE IN GENEVA I COULD, OF COURSE, DEAL WITH SOME PENDING PROBLEMS WITH ILO AND COULD ALSO ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH OTHER UN AGENCIES THERE.

EXPENDITURE ON MY STAY IN GENEVA WOULD BE MET EITHER BY UNCTAD OR BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, ON WHOSE BEHALF I ATTENDED THE PREVIOUS SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES AND THE OTHER MEETINGS OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE.

DO PLEASE BE SO KIND AS TO FORGIVE ME FOR TROUBLING YOU IN THIS REGARD.

WITH BEST WISHES. UNQUOTE.

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PAGE 03 LONDON 00992 221858Z

UNCLASSIFIED

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## Message Attributes

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